

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. In a storage area network, a method for identifying the impact of event  
5 occurrences comprising:
  - identifying a configuration of managed entities of interest in the storage area network;
  - determining relations between the managed entities of interest and other managed entities in the storage area network, the relations indicative of an event at a managed  
10 entity having an affect on another managed entity;
  - registering for notification of events affecting, based on the determined relations, the identified manageable entities;
  - receiving an indication of an event affecting a registered manageable entity; and
  - determining, via the determined relations, other manageable entities affected by  
15 the received event.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein determining the other manageable entities further involves:
  - traversing the relations between managed entities from the manageable entity  
20 directly affected by the event; and
  - identifying, from the traversing, manageable entities of interest affected by the received event.
3. The method of claim 2 further comprising storing the relations between the  
25 manageable entities, the relations operable to be mapped in response to corresponding events
4. The method of claim 3 wherein determining affected manageable entities further comprises:  
30 traversing a mapping of events and affected manageable entities;

matching the received event to the mapping of events and affected manageable entities; and

traversing the relations using the manageable entity corresponding to the matching event to determine affected manageable entities.

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5. The method of claim 1 wherein determining the relations further comprises parsing the manageable entities to identify managed entities of interest, the managed entities of interest including managed entities effected directly or indirectly by an event at another managed entity.

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6. The method of claim 1 wherein registering for notification of events affecting manageable entities of interest further comprises identifying types of events affecting a particular manageable entity and other manageable entities of interest relative to the particular manageable entity based on the determined relations.

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7. The method of claim 1 wherein determining the affected managed entities further comprises invoking a relation service operable to identify other managed entities effected by a particular managed entity according to the relations.

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8. The method of claim 1 wherein determining affected managed entities further comprises traversing a cache of effected managed entities and selectively invoking the relation service if no match is found in the cache.

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9. The method of claim 1 wherein identifying the configuration further comprises:  
determining, based on a set of business processes, business operations dependent on particular manageable entities; and  
designating the determined manageable entities as manageable entities of interest.

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10. The method of claim 1 further comprising integrating, via an adaptor, an indication of the identified manageable entity of interest and the triggering event with a

service impact monitor operable to apply the manageable entity of interest to determine affected business processes.

11. A method for correlating operational events with enterprise processes to evaluate  
5 impact of network occurrences comprising:  
    identify a model of events and objects, the model operable to enumerate events  
    corresponding to objects and further operable to enumerate objects corresponding to  
    other objects via a relation;  
    selecting, based on a level of overview scrutiny of the network, objects indicative  
10 of performance to monitor;  
    enumerating events operable to affect the selected object to be monitored;  
    building, by observing interconnections between the objects, virtual relationships  
    between objects, the interrelations indicative of a dependency relation between objects;  
    identify events directly affecting at least one of the selected objects;  
15 traverse the built virtual relationships to determine objects indirectly affected by  
the identified directly affected object;  
    registering with an event service to receive events corresponding to an occurrence  
of an enumerated event;  
    awaiting an occurrence corresponding to a registered event;  
20 reporting the event and the indirectly, affected objects; and  
    identifying, in a SIM manager, enterprise processes corresponding to the  
indirectly affected objects.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein objects are manageable entities in a storage area  
25 network, the manageable entities responsive to a server and console controlling the  
storage area network.

13. The method of claim 11 further comprising:  
    displaying via a graphic output device, the affected manageable entities; and  
30 tagging affected objects indicative of the sequence of relations affecting  
successive objects, the tagging indicative of direct and indirect impact of the events.

14. A server for identifying the impact of event occurrences in a managed information network comprising:

an interface to a manageable entity database having a configuration file, the  
5 interface operable to access a configuration file indicative of managed entities of interest in the storage area network;

a rule engine operable to determine relations between the managed entities of interest and other managed entities in the storage area network, the relations indicative of an event at a managed entity having an affect on another managed entity, the rule engine  
10 further operable to register for notification of events affecting, based on the relations, the identified manageable entities; and

an adapter responsive to the rule engine for receiving an indication of an event affecting a registered manageable entity, the adapter further operable to determine, via the determined relations, other manageable entities affected by the received event.

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15. The server of claim 14 wherein the rule engine is further operable to:

traverse the relations between managed entities from the manageable entity directly affected by the event; and

identify, from the traversing, manageable entities of interest affected by the  
20 received event.

16. The server of claim 14 further comprising a relations file in the manageable entity database operable to store the relations between the manageable entities, the relations operable to be mapped in response to corresponding events

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17. The server of claim 16 wherein the rule engine is further operable to determine affected manageable entities by:

traversing a mapping of events and affected manageable entities;

matching the received event to the mapping of events and affected manageable  
30 entities; and

traversing the relations in the relations file using the manageable entity corresponding to the matching event to determine affected manageable entities.

18. The server of claim 14 wherein the rule engine is operable to parsing the manageable entities to identify managed entities of interest, the managed entities of interest including managed entities effected directly or indirectly by an event at another managed entity.

19. The server of claim 14 wherein the rule engine registers for notification of events affecting manageable entities of interest by identifying types of events affecting a particular manageable entity and further identifying other manageable entities of interest relative to the particular manageable entity based on the determined relations.

20. The server of claim 14 wherein the adapter is operable to invoke a relation service operable to identify other managed entities effected by a particular managed entity according to the relations.

21. The server of claim 14 wherein the adapter is further operable to traverse a cache of effected managed entities and selectively invoking the relation service if no match is found in the cache.

22. The server of claim 14 wherein the configuration file is adapted to identify, based on a set of business processes, business operations dependent on particular manageable entities.

23. The server of claim 14 wherein the adaptor is operable to communicate an indication of the identified manageable entity of interest and the triggering event to a service impact monitor operable to apply the manageable entity of interest to determine affected business processes.

24. A computer program product having a computer readable medium operable to store computer program logic embodied in computer program code encoded thereon for identifying the impact of event occurrences in a managed information network comprising:

- 5 computer program code for identifying a configuration of managed entities of interest in the storage area network;
- computer program code for determining relations between the managed entities of interest and other managed entities in the storage area network, the relations indicative of an event at a managed entity having an affect on another managed entity;
- 10 computer program code for registering for notification of events affecting, based on the determined relations, the identified manageable entities;
- computer program code for receiving an indication of an event affecting a registered manageable entity; and
- computer program code for determining, via the determined relations, other
- 15 manageable entities affected by the received event.

25. A computer data signal having program code for identifying the impact of event occurrences in a managed information network comprising:

- 20 program code for identifying a configuration of managed entities of interest in the storage area network;
- program code for determining relations between the managed entities of interest and other managed entities in the storage area network, the relations indicative of an event at a managed entity having an affect on another managed entity;
- program code for registering for notification of events affecting, based on the
- 25 determined relations, the identified manageable entities;
- program code for receiving an indication of an event affecting a registered manageable entity; and
- program code for determining, via the determined relations, other manageable entities affected by the received event.

26. An infrastructure server for identifying the impact of event occurrences in a managed information network comprising:

means for identifying a configuration of managed entities of interest in the storage area network;

5 means for determining relations between the managed entities of interest and other managed entities in the storage area network, the relations indicative of an event at a managed entity having an affect on another managed entity;

means for registering for notification of events affecting, based on the determined relations, the identified manageable entities;

10 means for receiving an indication of an event affecting a registered manageable entity; and

means for determining, via the determined relations, other manageable entities affected by the received event.